A Celebration of the Life and Home Going for Veraian C. Edwards

Delivered from God
22 February 1924

Received by God
27 December 2011

Life Reflection Services

Thursday, 5 January 2012 ~ 10:00 A.M.

Rock of Ages M.B.C.
1829 Market Avenue
San Pablo, Ca 94806

Officiating, Pastor Otha Johnson

A.Z. and Vera Edwards Family in the 1950's

A.Z. and Vera Edwards Family 50+ years later

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. *Proverbs 22:6*

~ Remembering Mother Veraian C. Edwards ~

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Rev. 21:4

Heaven opened up for the delivery of Veraian on February 22, 1924 in Helena, Arkansas, blessing Frank and Miranda Forrest with a fair angel.

Vera, as she was called, received her primary education at Saint Stephens Baptist Church School under the instruction of Professor Arsenia Medley in Helena, Arkansas. She attended Merrell High School in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where she was active in competitive athletics. Her excellence in low hurdle jumping, led her to compete in track and field events at Tuskegee Institute in Montgomery, Alabama.

Under the tutelage of the late Professor Arsenia Medley, Vera received special training and education in the arena of Theatrical Musical Artistry and Oration. Vera was so fond of Professor Medly, that she named her youngest daughter, Arzenia in honor of Professor Medley. The "S" in her name was replaced with a "Z" as an accolade to her devoted husband, A.Z.

Vera confessed her hope in Christ at an early age and united with the Saint Stephens Baptist Church under the Pastorage of the late Rev. Bush in Helena, Arkansas. During her baptism ceremony, Vera's

mother, who was sheltered by others to keep her from joining Vera in the river baptism waters, said "Don't hold me, that's the baby child." Those words later became a song in the Church Choir.

After a brief marriage in which two (2) children, Lojuana and Louis Wright, were born, Vera moved to Richmond, California in 1946. She met the love of her life and was united in Holy Matrimony with A.Z. Edwards in 1949 in Richmond, California. To this union three (3) children were born. Her husband and one (1) child preceded her in death.

Mother Edwards was a giving and loving person who possessed a loving heart and spirit. She enjoyed baking and was a very good pastry chef. For many years she was gainfully employed with Albany Bowl as a Chef and Fry Cook.

As a avid fisherman, she truly loved spending her leisure time fishing.

Being a faithful, loving, and devoted wife and mother, she cherished her family very much; ensuring that her children attended Sunday school and church regularly. She was active in community services, including serving annually with elections and voting committees.

Mother Edwards united with Rock of Ages Missionary Baptist Church in 1958 under the pastorage of the late Rev. J. H. Wilson. She began

working out her soul salvation by singing in the Choir, which she loved and enjoyed. She was a devoted Choir Member, Deaconess, and served on the Mothers' Board, until she became ill and could no longer participate, as she desired.

For the 2nd time on her behalf, Heaven opened to receive the spirit of Mother Edwards, to live forever in the Mansion prepared just for her by the All Wise And Loving Father on December 27, 2011. She departed this life, at her home in the midst of her loved ones.

Mother Edwards will be well remembered for her forte, of giving and receiving love, hugs, and kisses. She referred to everybody as "Pretty Girl", "Pretty Boy", or "Sugar."

She leaves to cherish her memories, Three (3) daughters; Carol J. (Leonard) Andrews & Lojuana Wright both of Richmond, CA and Arzenia (Jerry Smith) Redcross, of Los Angeles, CA.; One (1) son, Louis (Joanne) Wright, Sr. of Vacaville, CA.; Eight (8) Grandchildren, Bobby, Louis, Jr., Keenan, Richelle, Lucy, Samson, Jr., Agnes (Nahshon) and David; Twelve (12) Great-Grandchildren; Three (3) Great-Great-Grandchildren: one (1) cousin, Rebecca Jacobs of Helena, Arkansas; one (1) niece Beatrice Dye, of Memphis, Tennessee; one (1) nephew, Lonnie Broadfoot, Jr. of Mississippi.

For we know that if our earthly house of [this] tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
II Corinthians 5:1

~ *ORDER OF SERVICE* ~

Processional ..... Ministers and Edwards Family

Scripture ..... Minister

Old & New Testament

Prayer ..... Minister

Solo ..... Brother Dion Williams

"Lord Don't Move The Mountain"

Tribute ..... Grandchildren

Musical Medley ..... Mother Estelle Tuggles

Expressions ..... Family & Friends

(2 Minutes Each - Please)

Acknowledgements ..... Sister Norma Johnson

Obituary ..... Sister Waldenia Fallins

Resolution ..... Mother N.M. Bonner

Special Tribute ..... Mother N.M. Bonner

Solo ..... Brother Dion Williams

"When I've Done The Best I Can, I Want My Crown"

Eulogy ..... Reverend, Dr. Otha Johnson

Glimpse 'til Glory ..... Funeral Directors

Recessional .....

INTERMENT

Golden Gate National Cemetery
1300 Sneath Lane
San Bruno, CA 94066

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
II Timothy 4:7-8

To Those Whom I Love & Those Who Love Me

Forever In My Heart

Right now I'm in a different place
And though we seem apart
I'm closer than I ever was
... I'm there inside your heart

I'm with you when you greet each day
And while the sun shines bright
I'm there to share the sunsets, too
... I'm with you every night

I'm with you when the times are good
To share a laugh or two
And if a tear should start to fall
... I'll still be there for you

And when that day arrives
That we no longer are apart
… I'll smile and hold you close to me

I Love You All, Vera

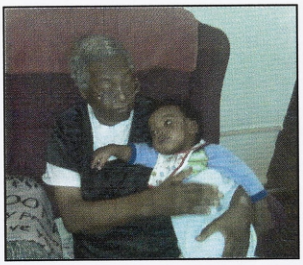
In Loving Memory of Our Dear Mother

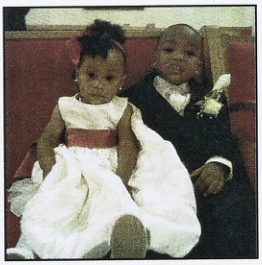
We lost a mother with a heart of gold
Who was more to us than wealth untold
Without farewell she fell asleep
With only memories for us to keep
We have lost, but God has gained
One of the best mothers the world contained
Her heart was the truest in all the world
Her love the best to recall
For none of earth can take her place
She is still the dearest mom of all
If she could have spoken before she died,
These are the words she would have replied

"This life for me has truly passed
I've loved you to the very last
Weep not for me
But courage take
And love each other
For my sake".

Mama we will love you forever.

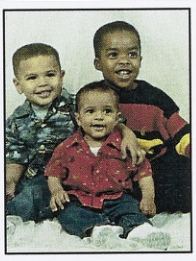
Lojuana, Louis, Carol & Arzenia





In Honor of Our Grandmother

Big Mama,
Thank you for teaching me the love of God and of a mother, grand mother, and friend. Thank you for accepting and loving me no matter what I have done. You are my "Shero" and you will forever remain in my heart.
Your Granddaughter, Lucy



Grandma,
I love you with all my heart. Thank you for being what you were to me. You were many things, a mother, a friend, a father, you were my rock and support. Thank you for raising me to be a respectful, God-fearing man and instilling good solid morals that I will pass down to my family. I love you and I miss you.
Your Grandson, David

Believe *or* The Man Who Thinks He Can

If you think you are beaten, you are;
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win, but think you can't,
It's almost a cinch you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost,
For out in the world we find
Success begins with a fellows will;
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you're outclassed, you are;
You've got to think high to rise.
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man;
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the one who thinks he can.

by Walter D. Wintle

As a young girl, I would hear you sing this song, "Save A Seat For Me". You would sing about one day going to heaven seeing all of your loved ones who had gone on before you. You would kindly ask them to "save a seat for me."

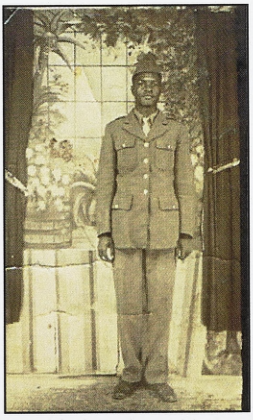
Granny, your prayers have been answered and now you finally have your seat in heaven in the presence of Jesus Christ. I love you and miss you and I know you will "Save A Seat For Me" too!
Love, your Pretty Girl, Agnes

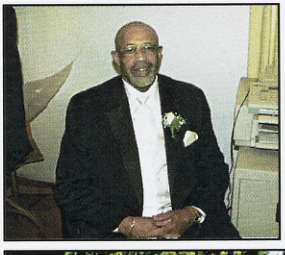
Granny,

It has been a honor to be your grandson. I have no regrets, because I know I have done right by you. You have been the strongest woman to me and I have learned so much from you. I don't feel sad, because I have had the pleasure of being in your presence my entire life time.

I love you and will miss you dearly.

Your Grandson Samson





Active Pallbearers

Leonard Andrews
Eric Avery
David Jite-Ogbuehi
Jerry Smith
Estace Wright
Louis Wright, Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers

Samson Jite-Ogbuehi, Jr.
Larry Fallins
Bobby Ray Wright
Keenan Wright

Rock of Ages Missionary Baptist Church
Men's Department, Mother's Board, Young Mother's Board,
& Missionary Society

Acknowledgements & Appreciation

We give thanks to God almighty and to each of you for all you have done during our season of need. There is comfort in knowing that our loved one is resting where there is peace, joy and everlasting light. The memories of how much she loved her family will travel with us always. Please continue to pray strength and healing for our family, as we pray God's blessing upon you.

The Edwards Family

Repass

Rock of Ages Missionary Baptist Church
Idell Johnson Dining Hall
1829 Market Avenue ~ San Pablo, California

Arrangements Entrusted To:

Wilson & Kratzer Mortuaries
13644 San Pablo Avenue
San Pablo, CA 94806